and nations of the world. Many calculation tables are illustrated and applied to the solution of problems. The book gives an accurate and adequate view of business as it is actually carried on today. For this reason the text would make a valuable reference book for all teachers of arithmetic and also for business men.

First Year Algebra. By WEBSTER WELLS and WALTER W. HART. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co., 1912. Pp. vi+325.

This text follows the modern tendency to make the solution of equations and problems the core of the course in elementary algebra. Each topic that is taken up is used in the solution of equations, a feature that is to be commended because it makes the mechanical work more purposeful and makes it function better than under the old plan.

New ideas in grouping, similar to those carried out in most of the new texts on elementary algebra, have been executed in this book. Thus, only the easier cases in factoring are given at first; the treatment of radicals and imaginaries is simplified.

One might wish that the present text, in many ways admirable, contained a greater variety and larger collection of good real applied problems that demonstrate the intrinsic worth of the subject to the pupil. The very large number of the old-time problems about A's and B's ages and problems about A and B doing a piece of work in so many days can be of only doubtful interest or value to the pupil. Also, the so-called "informational" problems, of which the book contains a large number, have been severely criticized in recent times as being totally unreal and as giving erroneous ideas as to how the world's work is actually carried on. Such a problem is: "The total population of Chicago, Philadelphia, and Greater New York (1910 Census), was 8,501,174. The population of Chicago exceeded the population of Philadelphia by 626,275; the population of New York exceeded twice the population of Chicago by 396,317. Find the population of each of the cities." No one would attempt in real life to get the answers to this problem by algebra, but would consult a table of statistics. The answers had to be known before the problem was made.

J. F. MILLIS

FRANCIS W. PARKER SCHOOL
CHICAGO